



Arlington Commission for Arts & Culture

Date: Thursday, April 6, 2023

Time: 7:00-8:30p

Location: Zoom

Minutes

Attending: Stewart Ikeda, Steve Poltorzycki, Brian McMurray, Sarah Morgan-Wu

Absent: Cristin Canterbury Bagnall, Lidia Kenig-Scher, Nicole Cuff, Beth Locke, Tom Formicola, Christine Noah

Guests: Terry Holt, Laura Hanrahan, Anna Litten, Cecily Miller, Stephanie McKay

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Not voted on due to lack of quorum

SECRETARY UPDATE

Minutes & Secretary

Update: **Black Joy Project:** Guest Stephanie McKay gave a wonderful presentation on this community-building project. ACAC invites the participants to let us know how we can support its activities in the future.

Updates: **Chair Updates**

- Steven and Cristin did an excellent presentation and **Finance Committee** unanimously approved our budget and provided good feedback for next year
- **Marketing Committee** reconstituted; welcoming input; had initial meeting Sunday, March 12 evening via Zoom; Doodle Polling for Quarterly meetings
- More changes at **DPCD**; DJ Beauregard no longer working with town

- [Presentation](#) about MBTA Communities by guest Jennifer Susse of [Equitable Arlington](#). We are encouraged to provide input [through their survey](#).

Updates: **Community Engagement**

- The **Arlington Mural Project** Community Advisory Committee has met 3 times on zoom and 2 times in person; our final meeting was rescheduled due to weather and will take place Monday, April 10 at 7 pm at the Town Hall. For this meeting, our consultant Amanda Hill is preparing to report findings from earlier conversations and exercises; these take the form of recommendations for project goals and strategies as well as criteria for site selection. Committee members are invited to comment on the findings and test the criteria during a mock site selection exercise. Cecily Miller has compiled all of the "nominations" for possible mural sites into a spreadsheet so that the Steering Committee can start exploring options and begin to contact building owners. Over 120 sites have been suggested by community members responding to our Community Input Survey, with some receiving multiple nominations.
- **CE** met with new **Poet Laureate** and 5 poets to discuss how to better engage poets; possible poetry slam or library, biergarten
- **Youth Banners** are hung on Mass Avenue. This is the last year it will be funded by the family of Grace James. ACAC is encouraged to consider how to continue it, possibly in partnership with the High School, and even expand it with other non-APS schools (Catholic, Minuteman, Lesley Ellis). Cultural District funding? Could it be a Menotomy250 project for April in 2025?

Discussion: **Year 3 Review, Strategic Planning, & Future 3-Year Goals**

Preliminary discussion about long-range planning, especially for benefit of newer folks. Deferred larger discussion to future meeting we do need to review [Strategic Plan](#) | [ACAC Operations Plan](#) | [Sample Year 2 Assessment](#) to do a final three year assessment and new 3 year plan. Although we decided to hold the discussion for a full meeting, we had a great, vibrant brainstorming discussion of how successful we've been in many areas, and whether as a result of our successes we may want to set all new goals and change focus.

New Business

Menotomy 250 Updates: **Grants Committee** is planning to encourage applications with projects addressing Menotomy250. Still vacancies on Committee; Multitown Joint Funding request Update; Climate Futures Expansion as a regional 250 project; Freedom's Way plans a podcast episode about Jason Russell House. ACAC should fold in Menotomy 250 planning

Next meeting will be Thursday, May 4 from 7:00-8:30p